The methods established in the year 2000 version of the MASP represented a novel, new approach to airport planning and programming for MDOT. This new approach resulted in the documentation of airport-related facilities necessary to meet both current and future air transportation needs of the state. The 2008 version of the MASP uses the framework established in the 2000 edition, reexamines the premises of that plan, and adjusts the plan accordingly to insure applicability for the time frame 2008 through 2030. The MASP 2008 identifies the aeronautical role of existing and recommended (new) airports and examines the components of both the airport system and individual airports required to serve that system. State system planning is accomplished within a comprehensive planning framework consistent with state goals and objectives for economic development and transportation. Such planning also provides direction for airport master planning.

The purpose of airport system planning, described in its broadest sense, is to determine the extent, type, nature, location, and timing of airport development needed in the state to establish a viable, balanced, and integrated system of airports to provide adequate service to Michigan residents and business. The MASP 2008 includes the following features:

Goals and measurable objectives with respect to airport development and the relationship to Michigan's economic development and transportation infrastructure.

Aviation-oriented objectives regarding the safety and level of service of Michigan's airports.

Policy and technical direction for airport master planning to be undertaken by individual airport sponsors.

Provision of a management and coordinative resource to complement and support urban and regional planning.

Michigan has a continuing obligation with the FAA to develop and maintain a current state system plan. MASP 2008 represents that plan. It has been aligned with the goals and objectives of MI Transportation Plan. The MASP 2008 supports programming decisions and is useful in evaluating programming actions related to the airport system and airport facility deficiencies.

